



# A PLACE PROTECTED

**SUBJECTS:** Language Arts, Art, Government, and Science

**GRADES:** K-3

**KERA GOALS:** Meets KERA Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6

**ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS:** Writing; listening; nature of scientific activity; change; resourcefulness and creativity; creative thinking; conceptualizing; expanding existing knowledge.

**DURATION:** One 20-30 minute period

**GROUP SIZE:** One or more classrooms (or fewer)

**SETTING:** Indoors or Outdoors (with clipboards)

**KEY VOCABULARY:** home, habitat, protect, endangered species

**ANTICIPATORY SET:** "How many of you have been to a zoo? How many of you have been to a national park?"

**OBJECTIVES:** The students will be able to: 1) express the importance of protecting animals in places like national parks; 2) expand their existing knowledge of the park wildlife and its habitats.

**MATERIALS:**

- ◆ A Place Protected Activity Sheet
- ◆ pencils
- ◆ crayons

**BACKGROUND:** Zoos, aquariums, and botanical gardens help to manage and protect endangered species of plants and animals. They recreate the habitat in which these plants and animals are found. These facilities help to ensure that important gene pools are still in existence. Often these refuges protect exotic animals from all around the world.

On the other hand, national parks protect the species of plants and animals that are native to a specific area. Parks help to keep the gene pool alive in its natural environment rather than trying to replicate one. Parks in the United States have preserved the wildlife and the habitat upon which it depends for survival.

There are many animals within Mammoth Cave National Park. They can be as small as snails or as large as deer. Some animals found in the forest include deer, raccoons, squirrels, snakes, wild turkeys, chipmunks, birds, coyotes, and foxes. Animals found in the river include turtles, beavers, fish, otters, and mussels. A few animals found in the cave include bats, cave crickets, salamanders (near the entrance), eyeless fish, and eyeless crayfish. All of these animals, as well as the homes they occupy, are important.



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## PROCEDURE:

1. The teacher writes the words ZOO, NATIONAL PARK, ALIKE and DIFFERENT on the blackboard. The teacher asks the students to name things that are alike or the same about zoos and national parks.

<b>Alike</b>	National Park	Zoo
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protects animals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protects animals</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides homes for animals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides homes for animals</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Place for people to see animals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Place for people to see animals</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saves animals from extinction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saves animals from extinction</li> </ul>

2. The teacher asks the students to name things that are different between zoos and national parks. The teacher writes their responses on the blackboard.

<b>Different</b>	National Park	Zoo
	Protects animals in their natural home	Creates a man-made home
	Protects the plants and the home environment they need	Supplies all of the animals needs
	Animals live on their own. They do not need people.	Animals need people for survival

3. The teacher explains that it is important to keep animals in their natural homes and national parks are able to do that. The teacher asks the students what kind of animals they think they would find in Mammoth Cave National Park. The teacher lists these animals on the board.
4. The teacher passes out A Place Protected Activity Sheet to each student and explains that the students are to draw a picture of an animal found in Mammoth Cave National Park. They are to draw it in the home it lives in; this could be a cave, forest, or field. Any animals and their homes can be drawn for this activity.
5. When the students finish their activity sheets they can share them with the class.

**CLOSURE:** Today we talked about some of the things that are alike and different with zoos and national parks. Both places are important, but it is very important for us to have national parks that protect not only the animals but their natural home.

**EVALUATION:** The teacher is able to evaluate the students through class discussion, their drawings, and sharing their activities.

## EXTENSIONS:

1. To follow up this lesson the teacher could bind the students' activity pages in a booklet for the students to read and enjoy together.
2. The students could create a bulletin board with their pictures to remind them of the animals at Mammoth Cave National Park.
3. The students could take a trip to a national park and/or a zoo to compare the two areas.



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# DRAW AN ANIMAL AND ITS HOME

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NAME:

DATE:

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